

WASHINGTON.

THE SANBORN INQUIRY.

RANDOLPH AGAIN FAILS TO MEET THE COMMITTEE. HIS OFFER AS AN EXCUSE THAT HE IS AFRAID HE WILL CRIMINATE HIMSELF BY TESTIFYING—MEASURES TAKEN TO COMPEL HIS ATTENDANCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, March 27.—Sanborn practically acknowledged judgment to-day and fled to New-York. When the examination of the Ways and Means Committee began, several weeks ago, Sanborn hastened to his defense, and asked that he might be summoned before the Committee. His request was considered, and the Committee informed him that he would be heard, and a day was fixed, the Committee delaying the inquiry in order to oblige him, and subjecting themselves to much inconvenience. The time came, but Sanborn was not ready, and so the matter was delayed. On Wednesday, as has been previously stated, he was present at the meeting of the Committee, as he had been on the day before, and heard the disgraceful disclosures and realized the inextinguishable position in which he was placed. From this time Sanborn, as the saying goes, "weakened."

Bayfield had not closed his testimony before Sanborn saw that his position as a witness before the Committee would be ruinous. He accepted a subterfuge, for want of a reason, and he had intended to tell the whole story of his connection with the contracts and had prepared himself, but that he had been informed, and that there was a person present who came here to get information to be used in a criminal prosecution in Brooklyn. He said he was afraid if he made his statement that he would criminate himself. This was a very flimsy subterfuge, for it is well known that the sessions of the Committee are attended by reporters and that the proceedings are made public. But the Committee accepted the suggestion of Sanborn's committee, and without asking him a single question an adjournment was made until the next day. That day was Wednesday, and Sanborn has not been seen about the Capitol since.

The next day Simmons was examined; also two of Sanborn's detectives. In the case all the time growing for Sanborn. To-day his counsel appeared, but Sanborn was out of sight. His counsel, not Gen. Butler, but Judge Woodbridge of Vermont, said that Mr. Sanborn was forced to go to New-York on the 1 o'clock train, to make preparations for his trial in Brooklyn on Monday next. His counsel in New-York, it was said, had telegraphed to him to come on at once. Mr. Woodbridge repeated that his client would lay bare the whole contract business if it would be received in confidence by the Committee, but he urged that a disclosure on the eve of his trial ought not to be expected. As Sanborn had not been regularly summoned before the Committee, the members had nothing to do but to consent to his going, but it was decided to issue a subpoena at once, in order to prevent any further trifling. It was said by members of the Committee that Sanborn obtained a postponement by the court, in Brooklyn, of his case, in order that he might appear as a witness before a Congressional Committee, and he now obtains a postponement by the Committee, in order to attend upon the court.

It is very evident that Sanborn will not make any statement, but it is very certain that he will be required to testify, and will be subjected to such a cross-examination as only persons having extraordinary information can conduct. He is summoned for Monday, April 6. In the mean time, the Committee will consider the testimony already taken, and examine Secretary Richardson, Assistant Secretary Sawyer, and perhaps some other witnesses.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]
At the meeting of the Committee on Ways and Means to-day, Mr. Woodbridge, counsel for Mr. Sanborn, apologized for the non-attendance of his client, and said that last night he had been informed of a third indictment for the same offense, and that the trial was set for Monday. If Sanborn was to appear and be subjected to the rigid questioning of the Committee, he would be placed in a very trying and difficult position. He said that Mr. Sanborn had no wish to keep anything from the Committee, and that he had prepared a little paper, which he (Woodbridge) would read if the Committee desired to hear it. A long colloquy ensued concerning Mr. Sanborn's reasons for not appearing before the Committee, during which Mr. Foster asked, "Can he testify without criminating himself?"

Mr. Woodbridge—My opinion is that he could make a thoroughly clean breast of the matter, and if he could be a witness in his own case, on trial, then I should not consider him in any danger.

Mr. Roberts inquired whether, if the trial in Brooklyn was postponed, or if no result was reached immediately, Mr. Woodbridge would advise Mr. Sanborn to come before the Committee?

Mr. Woodbridge replied that he should yield his opinion in that matter to that of Sanborn's counsel in New-York.

The Chairman—Let me understand exactly what you desire. Do you desire that this case should be postponed to some future day, or is it your desire that Sanborn should make a partial statement, through you, without submitting himself to a cross-examination?

Mr. Woodbridge—All I can say is that Sanborn states in his paper that he does not desire to submit himself to a cross-examination before his trial.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION IN CONGRESS.

NO FURTHER VOICE TAKEN IN THE SENATE—THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE AN ECHO OF THAT JUST CONCLUDED IN THE SENATE—A POWERFUL SPEECH BY MR. MITCHELL OF WISCONSIN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The only hope that there will ever be any more votes in the Senate on the currency question is predicated on the fact that a ten-minute rule has been adopted. Its enforcement to-day was, however, so loose that some Senators spoke repeatedly on the same amendment, and so there was no more inclination at the end of the day to vote than at its beginning.

The debate on the Currency bill in the House promises to be an echo of that just concluded in the Senate. It is not probable that many new views will be advanced or new arguments added to maintain the old, reiterated theories. The tenacity with which men hold to preconceived opinions on finance is well illustrated by the fact that each of the 11 members of the Banking and Currency Committee, after spending weeks in listening to the arguments of some of the most eminent financiers and business men in the country, now comes into the House with a speech maintaining exactly the same views he had before he began the protracted investigation of the subject. Every member appears to have accepted such facts as appeared to sustain his former opinions, rejecting all the others.

The discussion was resumed this afternoon. Of the speeches made the most noticeable was that of Mr. Mitchell of Wisconsin. A Democrat from the Milwaukee District, who is extensively engaged in banking and railroad enterprises, and is reported to be the richest man in the House. It was perhaps curiosity to learn the views on the currency question of a man supposed to control many millions of dollars, that led the House at first to listen attentively to this speech; but the sound sense that ran through it, and the pointed arguments with which it bristled, secured for it the same close hearing to the end. Mr. Mitchell showed not the slightest sympathy for the wild inflation theories with which the West is deluded. He believed that a safe currency must be based upon the precious metals, and that the prosperity of the country was crippled by its irredeemable paper money system. The notion that circula-

tion must keep pace with the increase of population and business he showed to be unfounded by statistics that were unanswerable. He maintained that there is now too much currency for the business use of the country, and strongly opposed the provision for free banking contained in the pending bill. With \$400,000,000 of greenbacks, a bank circulation of double that amount could be put out. The requirement for the redemption of bank notes in greenbacks he regarded as no check upon bank inflation, because few people ever thought of exchanging one kind of irredeemable paper for another. He called attention to the fact that the bill releases all the bank reserves, except five per cent, and thus accomplishes a large additional greenback inflation. The fallacy that a redundant currency makes interest low was effectively disposed of, and the favorite hobby of the inflationists that redemption is impossible as long as the balance of trade is against us was demolished by a few well directed arguments, sustained by statistics.

Mr. Mitchell's speech occupied only a little more than half an hour, and it is no exaggeration to say that it contained more solid sense on financial topics, in a small compass, than any speech delivered in either House this session.

THE DISTRICT FRAUDS.

THE CHANGE PROVED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN MADE TO PAY FOR WORK NOT DONE—GOV. SHEPHERD MAKES AN UNTRUE STATEMENT—TESTIMONY OF ANOTHER CONTRACTOR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Little by little, the truth about the management of affairs in the District of Columbia comes out, though it has to be sifted with much labor from a great mass of irrelevant testimony. To-day, the memorialists proved their charge that the United States has been required to pay for work that has never been done by the Board of Public Works or anybody else. Among the charges against the United States is the following, which is found in Gen. Babcock's report, and is a part of the voucher upon which the money was paid:

Reservation 17—Flagging 17,229 square feet, at 40 cents, \$6,915.60.

Grading, 7,649 square yards, at 55 cents, \$4,206.95.

Grading, 430 cubic yards, at 40 cents, \$172.

Total, \$11,294.55.

W. T. Riley was called as a witness and asked if he had examined the reservation and what he found there. He replied that there was not a foot of flagging on either side of the reservation. On the New-Jersey-ave. side there was an old brick footwalk, with a two-inch curb, that had been there at least ten years, and might have been there twenty years. At this point Gov. Shepherd interrupted the witness by saying that he could explain this matter, as he was personally cognizant of the facts, and to save the time of the Committee. He said that Congress made several appropriations for improvements during the last session. One of these, amounting to \$134,000, was to pay the Board for work which it had actually performed before the passage of the bill making the appropriation, Jan. 8, 1873. On March 3, 1873, Congress made another appropriation of \$1,000,000 to reimburse the old corporations for money that had been spent upon the avenues of the city in years past. This was to be given to the Board for new improvements to be made. When they came to draw this money from the Treasury no vouchers were required for it, and so the Engineer of the Board and one appointed by Gen. Babcock measured up and estimated the original cost of the old work. The flagging, &c., around Reservation No. 17 was of this character, and there was no claim that the Board had done the work there.

This explanation would have been very satisfactory, had it not been that it lacked two essential qualities—First: It is not true; and second: If it was true, it did not explain the charge against the United States for flagging, when the only work there was brick. It was not true that the \$14,000 in question was paid out of the appropriation made March 3, 1873, to reimburse the old corporations for work done on the avenues, because the money was paid Jan. 11, 1873, nearly two months before that appropriation was made, as the following certificate, appended to the account, of which this is one item, will show:

OFFICE PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, 3

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10, 1873.

I have had the proper examination made and the measurements verified, and hereby approve them and the prices claimed therefor.

O. E. BABCOCK,

Major of Engineers, in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds.

This settled the question in regard to that reservation, and the District Government had nothing to say in reply. Mr. Samo, the engineer who represented Gen. Babcock, in measuring this improvement, testified yesterday that one of the Board's engineers went with him to the reservation and pointed out the work that the Board had done. It is not very creditable to him, as an engineer, intrusted with the duty of protecting the interests of the United States, that he did not notice the difference between old brick pavement, that had been down at least ten years, and new flagging, that had been laid, laid at all, within 10 months.

Another interesting part of the testimony to-day was given by Patrick Cullinane, one of the contractors employed by the Board of Public Works. This man had a contract to grade and macadamize Four-and-a-half-st., and completed the work in December, 1872. During the progress of the work the Board had two superintendents present to see that it was properly done; and when it was completed the Chief Engineer of the Board examined it and gave a written certificate that the terms of the contract had been complied with and the work properly done. The Board therefore settled with Mr. Cullinane, by issuing to him certificates of indebtedness, as it had no money on hand. About a month later, and after the assessments had been made upon the property to pay for the improvement, the Metropolitan Street Railroad Company dug up the street to lay down its track, and some months later a question arose between the Board and the contractor as to the character of the work.

The former, fortified by a report of a personal inspection made by its Vice-President, Mr. Willard, holding that the work had not been properly done; and the latter claiming that the work had been destroyed by the railroad company. This dispute was finally settled last October by making the contractor pay \$15,000, and then his certificates, amounting to about \$120,000, were paid in several bonds.

While Cullinane held his certificates of indebtedness, the Board got several large sums of money from the United States, and he thought that he was entitled to some of it. He therefore visited the Treasurer of the Board repeatedly, to ask for money, but got none until July 11, 1873, when he was paid \$30,000. Several days before this, he says, he was told by the Treasurer, Col. Magruder, that if he (the contractor) would pay him \$5,000, he would settle with him. Cullinane supposed that he was joking, until the day he received the \$30,000, when Col. Magruder told him that if he felt any delicacy about paying that \$5,000 to him, he might go over to Georgetown and leave the money or a check with the Treasurer's wife. Cullinane did not do it. Still later in the season he asked the Treasurer for money at the Treasury steps, on Fifteenth-st., and the latter told him to go away. Mr. Cullinane told this story several times, and under a very sharp and searching cross-examination by Senator Stewart and the counsel for the District Government sustained himself in such a way as to make a favorable impression upon those present. Col. Magruder denied under oath, immediately after, that there was a word of truth in the story about the \$5,000. There is, therefore, an important conflict of testimony, or rather a plea of not guilty under

ALBANY.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

ONE ITEM HEAVILY INCREASED BY THE ASSEMBLY.—MR. BATCHELLER AFRAID OF "JOBS"—HIS "IN-SINUATIONS" REPELLED.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, March 27.—Discussion of the Supply bill was resumed as the special order in the Assembly again this morning, and continued until the adjournment. About two-thirds of the bill was disposed of, and the only change of importance was an increase of the item for the Buffalo Insane Asylum from \$100,000 to \$100,000. Mr. Batcheller, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, was very anxious to get through with the bill to-day, and when the question of adjournment arose he proposed as a substitute for the usual adjournment over to Monday evening, that a session be held at 3 o'clock this afternoon to continue until 5 o'clock, by which time, he thought, all the items of the bill would be disposed of.

Notwithstanding Mr. Batcheller's appeals to the Republicans as party men, responsible for the record that the Legislature was to make, and in spite of his insinuations that the lobby was at work to prevent a completion of the Supply bill to-day, and that a combination was being formed to load it down with some infamous "jobs," the adjournment was carried by a vote of 64 to 51.

Col. Spencer, who moved the amendment to Mr. Batcheller's motion for an afternoon session in favor of adjournment over, demanded that Mr. Batcheller should explain what was meant by his insinuations, or at least that he should state whether he had any reference to him in connection with the "infamous jobs" alluded to.

Mr. Batcheller replied that he did not question the honesty of Col. Spencer's motives, and did not suppose the lobbying was being done for his benefit, but that there was a combination to put off the Supply bill for corrupt purposes he was well satisfied, and the "jobs" would make their appearance in due time.

Col. Spencer said that the only claims he intended to ask to be inserted in the bill were a little additional compensation for forty or fifty pages and a claim for services rendered and money expended by Dr. Swinburne. These claims he was prepared to justify and to advocate at any and all times.

Mr. Beebe ridiculed the idea of the Chairman of the Ways and Means that corrupt motives had anything to do with the votes of members on adjournment to-day more than on any other Friday during the session. He also repelled the insinuation that the Democratic side of the House voted for adjournment with a view of making a bad record for a Republican Legislature, and showed by a reference to the vote that members of both parties were about equally distributed on both sides of the question.

Mr. Waehner thought Mr. Batcheller's insinuations were an insult to the House, and so did Mr. Worth. Mr. Berri explained his vote by saying there was sickness in his family, and several other members gave as a reason for adjournment over that it would be impossible to finish the Supply bill even if a session was held at 3 o'clock. Finally the vote was announced as above, and the House dispersed in bad humor.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE STATE CAPITAL.

MORRIS LAW-MAKING FOR THE METROPOLIS—REDUCING HARBOR FAIRIES—AN INSURANCE INVESTIGATION.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, March 27.—The Senate had under discussion to-day, in Committee of the Whole, several minor bills, which were ordered to a third reading. Mr. Fox introduced another of his series of bills which are being concocted in the Democratic Headquarters in New-York, with a view to throwing power into the hands of the people. The present bill proposes to elect the City Marshal by popular vote—one for each of the four wards.

The bill also proposes to reduce the Harbor Fairies, and to reduce the rates of the passenger tariff on this road with those on other roads in the vicinity of New-York. It was shown that the Harbor Road since it has increased its commutation rates about 300 per cent from the City Hall to many points on the line, and that the country around New-York has been impoverished by the exorbitant rates of the Harbor Road. The bill also proposes to reduce the rates of the passenger tariff on this road with those on other roads in the vicinity of New-York. It was shown that the Harbor Road since it has increased its commutation rates about 300 per cent from the City Hall to many points on the line, and that the country around New-York has been impoverished by the exorbitant rates of the Harbor Road.

AN INTERNAL REVENUE ORDER.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has addressed a circular letter to all Collectors of Internal Revenue, calling their attention to a recent act of the Supreme Court, holding that the Government may bring an action for the recovery of taxes, not only of such as are assessed, but also of such as are not assessed, and likewise of those which, on account of the statute of limitation, are not assessable. The Commissioner says:

I desire that you will exert yourself to discover all cases in your district where any taxes cannot now be assessed, owing to the limitation of Section 20 of the act of June 30, 1864, amended; and sections of the act of March 2, 1865, without a waiver of those limitations by the taxpayer. In all these cases you will notify the delinquent that he is liable for the taxes, and at his delinquency under these statutes, across the face of his returns the taxes will be assessed without penalty; but in cases where delinquency is not or refused to take this course, you will at once report the fact to the proper United States District Attorney, referring him at the same time to the terms of the above-mentioned decision of the Supreme Court.

In view of the importance of this matter, Collectors are urged to prompt action.

THE HOWARD COURT OF INQUIRY.

In the Howard Court of Inquiry to-day, the testimony of Gen. Balloch was resumed. He described the cash book of the State Bounty Fund; kept a separate memorandum book of what did not directly concern the payment of bounties; several cases were reported where checks were returned after they were supposed to have been paid; in such cases, the money was turned over to the War Department; one case was cited where a draft on the Freedmen's Bank at Mobile was bought here and sent to the cashier of that bank, who was agent for the Bureau of the War Department, and the check was returned to the War Department. The check was returned to the War Department, and the money was paid to the bank here. The check was returned to the War Department, and the money was paid to the bank here. The check was returned to the War Department, and the money was paid to the bank here.

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THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

SPEECH OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—TRANSCONTINENTAL COMMUNICATION—COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES—FINANCIAL ESTIMATES.

OTTAWA, Ont., March 27.—The Governor-General, at 1 o'clock this afternoon, proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate; and, having taken his seat upon the throne, commanded the attention of the House of Commons. The members of that body, preceded by their Speaker, Mr. Timothy Warren Anglin, appeared at the bar of the Senate. Mr. Anglin informed the Governor-General that the choice of the House of Commons had fallen upon him to be their Speaker, and he prayed for the members thereof the customary parliamentary privileges, after which the Governor-General delivered the following address:

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS: I have convened Parliament at the earliest moment consistent with the delay caused by the departure of the Governor-General from England, and I am glad to find that the House of Commons has been convened at the same time. The House of Commons has been convened at the same time. The House of Commons has been convened at the same time. The House of Commons has been convened at the same time.

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